

## **Northern Grey Wolves in the Western United States**

**Don Peay**

- 1995. President Clinton - 500 wolves in WY, ID and MT. **UT not part of recovery**
- Predicted 3 to 5 percent growth, no negative impacts to livestock or wildlife populations
- Knew it was a lie then, 35 percent compounding growth, 10 years Yellowstone Elk went from 22,000 to less than 3,000. Moose completely gone.
- 500 wolves kill 12,000 elk a year. Not a problem in 3 state area
- 3,000 wolves kill 75,000 elk a year - wipes out 3 state elk herds in just a couple of years.
- Jan 2009. Wolves 3,000, growing exponentially, were finally removed ESA protection Pres Bush
- Federal Judge Restores ESA protection, legal technicality
- Same Federal Judge Reinforces ESA protection - reason not even in the ESA
- April 14 2011 US Congress Removes wolves from the ESA, President Obama signs on
- Congressional Action was Challenged in Federal Court - MT "Judge No" finally said "Yes "
- The 9th Circuit court of appeals ruled 9 to 0 in Favor of the Congressional Action. They said, "Congress wrote the ESA, they can change it"
- US Supreme Court Denied hearing the case
- **This effort is documented in the Book, the Real Wolf. Ted Lyon**

### **Upper Midwest - MN, WI, MI**

- "Managed separate form the Rocky Mountain Wolves"
- 10 X the number of wolves required
- Wolves on and off ESA many times from 2010 to 2018
- 2020. Trump Admin Delists Wolves in All 48 states.
- Oct 2020 - Sen Hinkins and I were there with Sec. of Interior Barnhardt in MN to remove wolves from ESA protection in All 48 states, including ALL of UT
- Hunter Nation filed law suit against WI Game and Fish, won forced a wolf hunt in 2021 Feb 2021.

- WI Killed 214 wolves 72 hours.
- Biden Administration supported 48 state delisting in court - **California Federal Judge in Feb 2022 Wolves on Endangered Species list in all states except Alaska, Wyoming, Idaho and Montana**

### **Current Status of Wolves in UTAH**

- An Endangered Species in 95% of Utah
- Wolves are NOT endangered species for the Idaho border, down I 15 to Ogden, then north of I 84 up to Evanston. This was part of 2011 Congressional Action for Wyoming, Idaho and Montana.
- Former Bush Administration Assistant Sec. of Interior Lynn Scarlett told Mike Styler and Don Peay line would be down to Interstate 70. Both Parties are guilty of lots of false promises.
- A wolf North of I 84 is NOT Endangered, but if it crosses the Highway to the south, it is an endangered species, and if you kill a wolf in 95% of Utah, it is a Federal Felony and you can be sent to Prison.
- The ESA says animals are supposed to be managed on biological boundaries, "Not arbitrary and Capricious lines on a map" The current status of wolves in UT violates this ESA provision.

### **Wyoming Status of Wolves**

- The Democratic Governor of Wyoming established that as the original intent from the proposed re introduction that wolves in Yellowstone and Down to Jackson Wyoming, and East to Cody would be "managed as a trophy species" to protect the agreed upon 150 wolves.
- All the rest of Wyoming wolves would be classified as Predators and wolves could be taken like Coyotes, 24/7/365, no hunting permit needed.
- This "predator status" is the main reason why wolves have not populated Utah - they entered a "no fly zone". A 10th Circuit Court ruling approved this dual classification of wolves in Wyoming.

### **Colorado Wolf Status**

- November 2020, the Voters of Colorado - where substantial amounts of money were spent on a positive PR campaign to restore wolves, with almost NO opposition campaign, approved the idea to restore wolves to Colorado in the Fall of 2023
- Colorado. 1.59 M votes YES 1.53 M votes NO
- Plans are to Restore Wolves to the Western Slope of Colorado Rockies, just a days walk away from Utah.


a proposal to reintroduce the gray wolf back into the state. The proposition was passed with a narrow margin, making Colorado the first US state to pass legislation to reintroduce wildlife.<sup>[2]</sup>

Proposition 114	
Reintroduction and Management of Wolves	
Results	
Response	Votes
✓ Yes	1,590,299
✗ No	1,533,313
Valid votes	3,123,612
Invalid or blank votes	168,049
Total votes	3,291,661
Registered voters/turnout	4,211,531

Source:[Colorado Secretary of State](#)<sup>[1]</sup>

Jim's post

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Jim Bredy

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Wow! I just drove through Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks from CODY to Jackson. 43 years ago when I did this, there was literally a moose or elk on many green meadows or willow lined streams. This morning, I saw NOTHING! And it was "prime time" in the morning. Looks like the wolves have done a good job at "managing" and "harvesting" the population in the Parks!

